

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing a transportation equipment supply chain utilizing a  
2 network, comprising:
  - 3 a) receiving data from a plurality of transportation equipment outlets of a  
4 transportation equipment supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the  
5 sale of transportation equipment by the transportation equipment outlets;
  - 6 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering transportation  
7 equipment from a transportation equipment distributor of the transportation  
8 equipment supply chain;
  - 9 c) transmitting the data to the transportation equipment distributor of the  
10 transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the network;
  - 11 d) transmitting the data to a transportation equipment supplier of the transportation  
12 equipment supply chain utilizing the network; and
  - 13 e) forecasting activity in the transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the  
14 data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2 transportation equipment distributors and transportation equipment suppliers.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the transportation  
2 equipment outlets, the transportation equipment distributor, the transportation  
3 equipment supplier via a network-based interface.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the transportation  
2 equipment distributor and the transportation equipment supplier only after  
3 verification of an identity thereof.

- 1     5.     The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1     6.     The method of claim 1, wherein the transportation equipment outlets, the  
2     transportation equipment distributor, and the transportation equipment supplier  
3     each forecast utilizing the data.
- 1     7.     A system for managing a transportation equipment supply chain utilizing a  
2     network, comprising:
  - 3     a)     logic for receiving data from a plurality of transportation equipment outlets of a  
4     transportation equipment supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the  
5     sale of transportation equipment by the transportation equipment outlets;
  - 6     b)     logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering  
7     transportation equipment from a transportation equipment distributor of the  
8     transportation equipment supply chain;
  - 9     c)     logic for transmitting the data to the transportation equipment distributor of the  
10    transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the network;
  - 11    d)     logic for transmitting the data to a transportation equipment supplier of the  
12    transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the network; and
  - 13    e)     logic for forecasting activity in the transportation equipment supply chain  
14    utilizing the data.
- 1     8.     The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2     transportation equipment distributors and transportation equipment suppliers.
- 1     9.     The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the transportation  
2     equipment outlets, the transportation equipment distributor, the transportation  
3     equipment supplier via a network-based interface.
- 1     10.    The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the transportation  
2     equipment distributor and the transportation equipment supplier only after  
3     verification of an identity thereof.

- 1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the transportation equipment outlets, the  
2 transportation equipment distributor, and the transportation equipment supplier  
3 each forecast utilizing the data.
- 1 13. A computer program product for managing a transportation equipment supply  
2 chain utilizing a network, comprising:
- 3 a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of transportation equipment  
4 outlets of a transportation equipment supply chain utilizing a network, the data  
5 relating to the sale of transportation equipment by the transportation equipment  
6 outlets;
- 7 b) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for  
8 ordering transportation equipment from a transportation equipment distributor of  
9 the transportation equipment supply chain;
- 10 c) computer code for transmitting the data to the transportation equipment distributor  
11 of the transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the network;
- 12 d) computer code for transmitting the data to a transportation equipment supplier of  
13 the transportation equipment supply chain utilizing the network; and
- 14 e) computer code for forecasting activity in the transportation equipment supply  
15 chain utilizing the data.
- 1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is parsed to match  
2 each of a plurality of transportation equipment distributors and transportation  
3 equipment suppliers.
- 1 15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the data is made accessible  
2 to the transportation equipment outlets, the transportation equipment distributor,  
3 the transportation equipment supplier via a network-based interface.

- 1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the data is accessible to the  
2 transportation equipment distributor and the transportation equipment supplier  
3 only after verification of an identity thereof.
- 1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2 Internet.
- 1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the transportation equipment  
2 outlets, the transportation equipment distributor, and the transportation equipment  
3 supplier each forecast utilizing the data.